

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/717,682

Examiner

Mr. Terry K. Cecil

Applicant(s)

MARK, FARVELL M.

Art Unit

1723

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8-15-2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 13-15 respectively renumbered upon allowance as claims 1-3.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 2-8-2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>0805</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Art Unit: 1723

Note: Claims 13-15 are allowed and have been respectively renumbered upon allowance as claims 1-3.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Moy on 8-25-2005.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

- Claims 8-12 are canceled.
- Claims 13-14 have been amended as follows:

—13. (Amended) An automatic water filtration and purification system for light industrial and home installations, having continuous water flow to a fixture coupled thereto, while simultaneously and automatically regularly flushing and cleaning in-path filter media, comprising, in combination:

~~a bypass valve coupled to a water line for diverting water to the fixture without passing through the filter media;~~

a course filter assembly coupled to the bypass valve;

a fine filter assembly coupled in series to the course filter assembly;

an ultraviolet lamp assembly coupled series with the {at} fine filter assembly;

Art Unit: 1723

a respective flushing control valve coupled to a flushing port located on each of the course filter assembly and the fine filter assembly;

a bypass valve coupled to a water line for diverting water to the fixture without passing through the course and fine filter assemblies; and

a programmable control unit connected to the flushing control valves wherein the programmable control unit comprises a sequentially energized flushing control valve timer electrically connected to the flushing control valves for automatically and regularly flushing and cleaning the course and fine filter assemblies ~~automatic water filtration and purification system~~.

14. (Amended) The automatic water filtration and purification system in accordance with Claim 13 further comprising a valve filter coupled downstream of at least one of the flushing control valves.—

- Specification, **page 1**, line 14, after “2002,” —now abandoned— has been added; **page 13**, line 18, “times” has been replaced with —timers—; **page 18**, line 5, “times” has been replaced with —timer—; and **page 20**, line 2, “times” has been replaced with —timer—.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

- The closest cited art—JP 10066971 A—fails to anticipate or render obvious, alone or in any proper combination, the serially-connected course and fine filter assemblies each having a flushing port with a flushing control valve, wherein a programmable control unit having a

Art Unit: 1723

sequentially energized flushing control valve timer is connected to the valves, and wherein the system has a continuous water flow to a fixture coupled thereto, while simultaneously and automatically regularly flushing and cleaning the in-path filter media.

- The specification was amended to correct typographical errors.

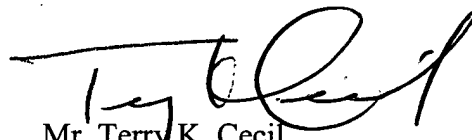
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee.

Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 1723

Contact Information:

- Examiner Mr. Terry K. Cecil can be reached at (571) 272-1138 at the Carlisle campus in Alexandria, Virginia for any inquiries concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner. Note that the examiner is on the increased flextime schedule but can normally be found in the office during the hours of 8:30a to 4:30p, on at least four days during the week M-F.
- Wanda Walker, the examiner's supervisor, can be reached at (571) 272-1151 if attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful.
- The Fax number for this art unit for official faxes is (571) 273-8300.
- Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Mr. Terry K. Cecil
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1723

TKC
August 25, 2005